# Weekly Market Summary

Published by

Missouri Department of Agriculture Division of Market Information & Outreach Market News Program



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Bob Holden, Governor

Volume XXIV, Number 32 ♦ P.O. Box 630, Jefferson City, MO 65102 ♦ (573) 751-4211 ♦ Friday, August 06, 2004

## MISSOURI WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGE REPORT

Receipts 19,425; Week ago 17,963; Year ago 31,661 Medium and Large 1 (Medium Flesh)

Fdr. ST	EERS:	<u>Fdr. Hl</u>	EIFERS:	Hols.	<u>STEERS</u>
363 lbs.	151.49	349 lbs.	138.21	438 lbs.	109.62
450 lbs.	139.93	458 lbs.	125.34	512 lbs.	101.50
555 lbs.	133.18	544 lbs.	122.50	666 lbs.	93.72
648 lbs.	128.26	652 lbs.	117.35	738 lbs.	85.98
744 lbs.	120.64	748 lbs.	113.77	826 lbs.	86.68
849 lbs.	115.67	820 lbs.	108.55		
				:	
		:		:	

#### SOUTHERN MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(West Plains, Gainesville)

Receipts 5000; Week ago 4856; Year ago 5169 Compared to last week steers 400-600 lbs and heifers 400-500 lbs steady to 2.00 lower, other weights calves and yearlings steady to 3.00 higher, Slaughter Cows steady to 3.00 lower, Bulls 2.00-3.00 lower.

<u>STEERS:</u> Medium and Large 1		<u>HEIFERS</u> : Medium and Large 1	
250-300 lbs. 350-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-870 lbs.	169.00-182.50 149.00-156.00 135.00-147.00 120.00-131.00 118.00-129.00 110.75-120.50	400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs.	134.00-144.00 115.00-125.00 114.00-122.00 108.00-116.00 104.00-110.00
Large 3 Holsteins 400-525 lbs. 101.50-113.00 600-700 lbs. 92.50-97.00 Pkg 829 lbs 83.00		SLAUGHTER CO and Boning (70-85 61.00, high dressing Lean (85-90%) 50.0 dressing 44.00-51.0	% lean) 53.00- g 58.00-63.00. 00-58.00, low
REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2, 2 to 7 yrs, 1100-1400 lbs. 2nd and 3rd stage, 950.00-1150.00, per head.		SLAUGHTER BUI Grade 1-2, 1200-23 79.00, high dressing low dressing 62.00-	35 lbs., 71.50- g 79.00-84.00,

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COW & CALF PAIRS: Medium and Large 1-2, 2 to 6 yrs, 1000-

1400 lbs with baby-300 lb. calves 1010.00-1325.00 per pair.

### SOUTHWEST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Joplin)

Feeder Cattle Receipts 3600, week ago 2970, year ago 5380 Cow and Bull Receipts 850; week ago 790; year ago 1476 Dairy Cattle Receipts 756; Springfield 07/27/04

Compared to last week steers and heifers mostly steady except heifers over 650 lbs 2.00-5.00 higher, Slaughter cows 2.00-3.00 lower, bulls 2.00-4.00 lower.

<u>STEERS:</u>		<u>HEIFERS</u> :	
Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
1 lot 387 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs. Load 826 lbs.	155.00 138.00-146.00 126.00-134.00 118.00-127.00 116.50-118.00 112.60	500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs.	137.00-147.00 123.00-133.00 117.00-125.00 109.00-118.50 108.50-114.00

<u>HOLSTEINS:</u>		<u>Dairy Cattle Sales</u>
Large Frame 3		Springer Heifers: Supreme
Lot 402 lbs. Lot 749 lbs.	109.00 89.50	1825.00-1980.00, Crossbreds 1580.00-1650.00, Approved 1530.00-1775.00, Bred Heifers 4 to 6 months Supreme 1700.00- 2050.00, Approved 1400.00- 1675.00. Open Heifers; Approved 700-800 lbs 910.00-1260.00, 600-
		700 lbs 1050.00-1150.00, 500-600 lbs 900.00-1080.00, Baby
		Calves: Holstein Heifers 230.00-460.00.
DEDI A GENTE GONIG		CLAUCHTED COMC D. 1:

REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2, 1050-1500 lbs, 2 to 7 yrs few ss, 3rd stage, 800.00-1300.00 per head.

COW & CALF PAIRS: Medium and Large 1-2, 3 yrs to bm, 1000-1300 lbs. with 100 to 350 lb calves, 975.00-1225.00 per pair.

SLAUGHTER COWS: Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 60.00-65.50, high dressing 66.00-70.00 Lean (85-90%) 52.50-59.00.

SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1-2, 1425-2415 lbs., 75.50-82.00, high dressing 83.00-86.00, low dressing 71.00-75.50

#### INTERIOR MISSOURI DIRECT HOGS

Weekly Receipts 7,201; Week ago 8,135; Year ago 9,363 Compared to last weeks close barrows and gilts steady to 1.00 lower. Sows steady to 2.00 lower.

BARROWS AND GILTS:

Base carcass meat prices 72.00-73.00

Weekly top price Monday 75.00

<u>SOWS:</u>

300-500 lbs 45.00-49.00 Over 500 lbs 51.00-53.50.

#### WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Kingsville and Sedalia)

Receipts 1208; Week ago 1064; Year ago 3140 Compared to last week feeder steers and heifers firm to 5.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls steady to 2.00 lower.

FEEDER STEERS:		FEEDER HEIFERS:		
Medium and	Large 1& 1-2	Medium and	Large 1 & 1-2	
300-400 lbs 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs. 825-900 lbs		400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs.	127.00-132.50 124.50-134.00 120.00-126.75 110.00-124.75 107.00-113.25	
REPLACEMEN	T COWS: rge 1-2, 2 to 6 yrs, and to 3rd stage,	SLAUGHTER C and Boning (70-	85% lean) 54.50- sing 62.50-69.00.	
COW & CALF and Large 1-2, S	PAIRS: Medium carce.	SLAUGHTER E Grade 1-2, 1125- 76.75, high dress		

#### EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

FEEDER HEIFERS:

(Bowling Green, Kingdom City, and Boonville)
Receipts 2731; Week ago 3131; Year ago; 3564 Compared to last week steers and heifers steady to firm. Slaughter cows steady to 5.00 lower.

FEEDER STEERS:

Medium and I	Large 1 & 1-2	Medium and Large 1 & 1-2		
350-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-750 lbs. 800-825 lbs.	136.00-151.00 130.00-140.00 122.50-142.50 119.00-140.00 115.00-130.00 pkg. 115.00	400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-775 lbs.	125.00-144.00 120.00-131.50 115.00-131.50 107.00-127.50 105.00-110.00	
<u>SLAUGHTER S7</u> 2-4, 80.00-83.00.	<u>ΓΕΕRS:</u> Choice	Boning, and Lea	COWS: Breaking, in (70-90% lean) th dressing 58.00- ing 45.00-55.00	
SLAUGHTER H 2-4, 79.25-82.25.	EIFERS: Choice		BULLS: Yield -2000 lbs, 70.00- sing 78.75-85.75.	

#### NORTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Palmyra, New Cambria, and Green City)
Feeder Cattle Receipts 3153; Week ago 119; Year ago 4971
Slaughter Cattle Receipts 94; Week ago 177; Year ago 186
Compared to last week steers and heifers steady to 4.00 higher.
Slaughter cows steady to 2.00 higher. Slaughter steers and heifers 1.00 lower.

<u>FEEDER STEERS:</u> Medium and Large 1-2		<u>FEEDER HEIFERS</u> : Medium and Large 1 & 1-2	
300-400 lbs. 400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs. 800-900 lbs.	149.00-153.00 138.00-149.00 135.00-145.00 126.25-142.50 114.25-126.25 115.25-119.85	400-500 lbs. 500-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 700-800 lbs.	Scarce 121.00-137.00 120.00-135.00 114.75-132.00 109.10-118.25 107.50-112.25
<u>SLAUGHTER S7</u> 2-3 1100-1400 lb		and Boning (70-	COWS: Breaking 85% lean) 58.00-
<u>SLAUGHTER H</u> 2-1000-1350 lbs.		SLAUGHTER I Grade 1-2, 1350 78.50.	<u>BULLS:</u> Yield -2300 lbs. 70.50-

#### SOUTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Patton Junction and Fruitland)

Receipts 1008; Week ago 1071; Year ago 1287

Compared to last week, steers and heifers steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter Cows and Bulls 1.00 lower.

<u>FEEDER STEERS:</u> Medium and Large 1-2		<u>FEEDER</u> Medium an	<u>HEIFERS</u> : d Large 1-2	
300 400 500 600	0-300 lbs 0-400 lbs. 0-500 lbs. 0-600 lbs. 0-700 lbs. 0-750 lbs.	139.00-152.00 121.00-143.00 117.00-126.50	600-700 lbs.	137.00-139.00 118.00-148.00 107.00-132.00 108.00-120.00 100.00-115.50 90.00-107.00
REPLACEMENT COWS: Medium and Large 1-2, 5 to 7 yrs 1080-1375 lbs in 2nd to 3rd stage 800.00-830.00 per head.		SLAUGHTER Co and Boning (70-8 60.00, high dressi Lean (85-90%) 4	55% lean) 52.50- ing 56.50-64.25,	
COW & CALF PAIRS: Medium and Large 1-2, 2 to 7 yrs 875-1360 lbs with 100-250 lbs calves 850.00-1235.00 per pair.		SLAUGHTER B Grade 1-2, 1250- 75.50, high dressi	2015 lbs 68.00-	

#### SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Cuba and Vienna)

Receipts 1607; Week ago 2559; Year ago 4376

FEEDER STEERS:

Medium and Large 1

Compared to last week steers steady to 2.00 lower, heifers very uneven from 3.00 higher to 5.00 lower. Slaughter Cows 4.00-6.00 lower.

FEEDER HEIFERS:

Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1			
300-400	lbs.	139.00-159.00	300-400 lbs.	Pkg. 133.00	
400-500	lbs.	134.00-147.00	400-500 lbs.	119.00-135.00	
500-600	lbs.	127.00-141.25	500-600 lbs.	116.50-137.00	
600-700	lbs.	121.00-142.00	600-700 lbs.	110.00-130.00	
700-750	lbs.	108.00-118.50	700-750 lbs.	105.00-117.50	
800-900	lbs.	104.25-110.00			
REPLA	CEMENT (	COWS:	SLAUGHTER COV	WS: Breaking	
Medium	and Large	1-2, 2 to 8 yrs,	and Boning (70-85% lean) 51.00-		
975-135	0 lbs, 1st to	3rd stage,	58.25, high dressing 59.25-65.00,		
925.00-	1140.00 per	head.	Lean (85-90%) 47.00-52.50, low		
			dressing 41.00-47.0	00.	
COW &	CALF PAI	RS: Medium	SLAUGHTER BUI	LLS: Yield	
and Large 1-2, 2 to 6 yrs, 950-		Grade 1-2, 1400-1900 lbs, 66.00-			
1250 lbs with 150-350 calves		74.25, high dressing 77.00, low			
1125.00	-1250.00.		dressing 57.00-63.0	0.	

#### MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT SLAUGHTER CATTLE REPORT

Weekly Receipts 800; Week ago 1200; Year ago 1500 Compared to last week, trade light. Live sales 3.00 lower and dress sales on a grid basis 2.00-4.00 lower. Demand and Seller interest light to moderate.

STEERS: 50-70% Choice 1200-	STEERS AND HEIFERS:
1300 lbs 82.00.	Carcass sales: No Sales.

HEIFERS: 50-70% Choice 1100-**GRADE AND WEIGHT (Grid):** 1200 lbs 82.00. Choice 3 550-950 lbs few 132.00-136.00. Select 3 550-950 lbs few 128.00-130.00.

#### MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT WEANER AND FEEDER PIG REPORT

Receipts: 15075 (FOB 4205 Delivered 10870). Compared to last week, weaner and feeder pigs steady. Moderate demand for moderate supply.

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights.

Fob the farm, 0% negotiated.

4205 head 10 lbs 28.00-34.69 weighted average price 29.93.

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights.

Delivered, 42.3% negotiated.

9330 head 30.00-35.38 weighted average 10 lbs 34.03.

Feeder pigs in all lot sizes. Delivered 100% negotiated

1540 head 40-50 lbs 43.00-46.00, weighted average 44.8 lbs 43.60

#### MIDWEST SHEEP REVIEW

Slaughter Receipts
This week 49,000; Week ago 51,000; Year ago 55,000

Slaughter Lambs 2.00 lower, Slaughter Ewes 5.00 higher, Feeder Lambs steady.

Slaughter Ewes: Utility and Good 1-3 35.00-45.00, Cull 1 25.00-35.00.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 2-3 wooled 110-120 lbs 86.00-88.00, 120-140 lbs 88.00-90.00.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1-2 60-80 lbs 95.00-100.00, 80-100 lbs 90.00-95.00.

#### WEEKLY HAY SUMMARY

Hard rains fell in most areas north of the Missouri River on Wednesday. Some areas in Saline County reported five plus inches in a short period of time. Hay farmers around the state have had a rough year. Most have put up much more hay than average. However, there have been far fewer good hay making days to work with. Pastures are much better than anyone remembers for this time of year, which means that it could be a long time before most begin to feed hay. It's hard to believe that most years we would be looking ahead about a month to fall pasture growth. Hay movement has been slow, with very few interested in looking for winter hay this year. Barns are overflowing with average quality hay. Most producers are thankful for the few faithful dairy and horse farmers they have spent years building relationships with. Hay prices remain steady, movement is light, and supply is heavy. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay hotline available for both buyers and sellers. To be listed, or for directory, call 1-800-877-4HAY (4429) (All prices per ton unless specified and most reflect delivered prices) Supreme quality Alfalfa(RFV>185) 100.00-140.00 Premium quality Alfalfa (RFV170-180) 80.00-110.00 Fair to Good quality Alfalfa(RFV130-170) Round bales 35.00-80.00 Small, Big squares and baleage (dry weight) 70.00-100.00 Good quality mixed Alfalfa and grass small square bales 2.50-3.00 per bale 30.00-45.00 per large round bale Fair to good quality Prairie hay 55.00-75.00 Good quality Brome 50.00-85.00 Good quality Timothy Hay 3.00-3.50 per small square bale Good quality Red Clover hay 30.00-60.00 Good quality Mixed Grass hay 20.00-35.00 per round bale 1.25 to 2.50 per small square Fair quality large round bales Fescue 10.00-30.00 per bale Wheat hay 50.00-60.00 Wheat straw 1.50-3.00 per small square bale

#### WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFFS PRICES (DOLLARS PER TON-BULK BASIS)

Area	Soybean Meal 48% Solvent	Cottonseed Meal 41% Solvent	Meat Meal	Wheat Middlings
Kansas City	192.50	182.50	182.50	66.00
St. Louis	217.50	190.75	197.50	61.00

#### WEEKLY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

	<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>HOGS</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>
Week to date	625,000	1,895,000	49,000
Last week	634,000	1,896,000	51,000
Last Year	720,000	1,812,000	55,000
2004 yr. to date	19,505,000	59,643,000	1,584,000
2003 yr. to date	21,649,000	58,066,000	1,683,000

#### MIDWEST EGG REVIEW

Prices on large and medium .04 lower, other sizes of eggs steady. IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN: Prices paid to producers. (cents per dz.) Large .37-.44, Medium .17-.21, Small .10-.12.

#### **By-Product Feed Prices**

Soy Hulls Mexico, MO 70.00, Alfalfa Pellets 17% St Louis, MO 120.00, Distillers Grain dried, Macon, MO 106.00, Corn Gluten Feed pelleted, Decatur, Il 61.00, Brewers Grain pressed 70% moisture, St Louis, MO 34.00. Prices per ton.

#### WEEKLY COMMODITY GRAIN FUTURES TRENDS

Compared to last Friday: Soybeans Aug .07 higher, others .05 to .11 lower, Wheat .02 to .08 higher, Corn .08 to .11 higher, KC Wheat .02 to .06 higher, Soybean Meal 2.80 to 9.30 lower. (All price trends approximate ranges).

#### Daily Grain Futures Closes

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Soybeans Aug Sep Nov Jan Mar	598 569 1/2 566 574 1/2 582 1/4	599 1/2 572 3/4 567 574 582	590 565 1/2 557 564 570 1/2	609 1/2 581 1/2 571 1/4 578 1/4 583 1/2	606 3/4 569 1/4 561 3/4 567 1/2 574 3/4
Wheat Sep Dec Mar May Jul	317 330 3/4 342 1/4 345 1/2 350	317 331 1/4 342 3/4 345 1/2 351	318 1/2 332 3/4 344 1/2 348 3/4 352	321 1/2 336 348 352 1/2 354 1/2	315 3/4 332 344 348 350 1/2
Corn Sep Dec Mar May Jul	218 1/4 227 3/4 236 1/2 242 1/2 247 1/2	219 1/4 228 3/4 237 3/4 243 1/2 248 3/4	221 1/4 231 1/4 240 1/4 246 1/4 241 1/4	224 234 3/4 243 3/4 294 1/2 254 1/4	225 3/4 236 3/4 245 1/4 254 1/2 256 1/2
KC Wheat Sept Dec Mar May Jul	340 1/2 353 1/2 362 1/4 366 366 1/2	339 1/4 351 3/4 361 365 1/2 367	342 354 1/2 363 1/2 367 1/2 370	343 357 367 369 370	339 3/4 352 360 1/2 364 1/2 361
SB Meal Aug Sep Oct Dec Jan	192.80 183.70 174.30 173.90 175.30	188.00 180.40 172.80 173.40 174.40	183.80 179.40 171.80 171.80 172.70	186.80 182.70 176.20 175.20 176.00	188.70 181.20 173.50 172.70 173.50

#### WEEKLY COMMODITY FUTURES TRENDS

Compared to last Friday: Live Cattle .37 to 1.17 lower, Lean Hogs .58 to 1.53 higher, Pork Bellies Aug 3.90 lower, others 3.22 to 3.70 higher, Feeder Cattle nearby .02 to .60 lower, others .67 to .87 higher.

#### Daily Futures Closes

Daily Futures Closes							
	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.		
Cattle Aug Oct Dec Feb Apr	85.25 88.50 89.62 89.62 87.12	83.07 86.37 87.52 88.30 86.10	84.82 87.50 89.27 89.50 87.37	84.55 87.40 89.00 89.35 87.15	84.55 87.60 89.02 89.55 87.30		
Lean Hogs Aug Oct Dec Feb Apr	78.50 70.35 65.90 63.12 60.95	77.37 69.25 64.77 62.55 60.57	78.55 70.20 65.45 63.42 61.10	78.62 70.15 65.42 63.55 61.10	79.25 70.75 65.80 63.45 61.25		
Prk Bel Aug Feb Mar May Jul	102.95 93.80 92.50 92.77 97.00	99.95 94.67 94.50 95.77	99.27 96.00 94.50 95.77	101.97 97.25 94.90 96.00	100.20 96.45 96.25 95.97		
Fdr Cat Aug Sep Oct Nov Jan	114.32 113.35 112.85 110.22 105.90	111.55 110.45 110.05 107.75 103.75	113.75 112.55 112.05 109.57 105.50	113.97 112.42 111.95 109.80 105.50	114.05 112.45 112.12 109.77 105.47		
Milk Aug Sep Oct	14.27 16.02 15.15	14.21 15.85 14.98	14.14 15.38 14.65	14.08 15.23 14.59	14.00 14.66 14.25		

WEEKLY MARKET SUMMARY (USPS 597250) To be published weekly by the Missouri Department of Agriculture 1616 Missouri Blvd. Jefferson City, MO 65109 Postmaster: Send address changes to: Missouri Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 630 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Periodicals postage paid at Jefferson City, Missouri

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#### MISSOURI GRAIN WEEKLY TRENDS

Soybeans uneven, .17 lower to .11 higher Wheat .07 higher Corn .09 to .19 higher Grain Sorghum .20 to .39 higher

Weekly Missouri Selected Cash Grain Bids

Area	#1 Soybean	#2 Soft Wheat	#2 Corn	#2 Grain Sorghum
Kansas City Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	5.96 5.92 5.77 5.91 5.82	3.31 3.29 3.33 3.33 3.30	2.03 2.04 2.16 2.19 2.21	3.63 3.64 3.68 3.75 3.79
St. Louis Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	5.75-5.81 5.76-5.86 5.76-5.79 5.90-5.99 5.90	3.21 3.21 3.25 3.30 3.25	2.29-2.31 2.33-2.34 2.36-2.37 2.36-2.41 2.39-2.43	3.71 3.75 3.80 3.87 3.96
Central Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	5.55-5.68 5.56-5.62 5.41-5.52 5.55-5.61 5.52	3.22 3.22 3.24 3.27 3.21	2.10-2.13 2.09-2.14 2.11-2.13 2.14-2.16 2.16-2.21	3.12 3.10 3.14 3.20 3.23
S.E. MO Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	5.60-5.71 5.54-5.72 5.47-5.62 5.61-5.88 5.52-5.79	3.04-3.12 3.06-3.12 3.09-3.13 3.12-3.21 3.08-3.16	2.04-2.15 2.05-2.16 2.08-2.18 2.14-2.18 2.16-2.23	3.71-3.87 3.73-3.89 3.76-3.94 3.78-4.01 3.87-4.05

(PRICES PER BU. EXCEPT GR. SORG. PER CWT) \*NEW CROP

#### August 06, 2004

#### **Weekly Crop Report**

The major crops in Missouri are developing a few days ahead of average, with growth conditions continuing favorable in most areas. Field Crops Report Seventy-two percent of the corn has reached the dough stage or beyond and 24 percent is dented, 1 week ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the 5-year average of 58 percent in the dough stage. Corn development by area ranges from 54 percent in the dough stage or beyond in the northeast district to the entire crop in the southeast district. Reporters rated condition of the crop as 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 56 percent good and 26 percent excellent, holding nearly the same high levels of expectation as a week earlier. Seventy-four percent of the soybeans are blooming and 41 percent are setting pods. Development is 8 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the normal pace of 68 percent blooming and 31 percent setting pods. The crop is most advanced in the northwest district with 85 percent blooming and 52 percent setting pods, while the southwest district is least advanced at 52 percent blooming and 22 percent setting pods. Soybean condition is rated as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 53 percent good and 16 percent excellent, holding nearly steady with a week ago. Sudden Death Syndrome has appeared in a few bean fields in the central and northeastern counties but reporters indicate the disease is not significant in most areas. Sixty-five percent of the sorghum has headed, 4 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of average for this date. Heading varies from 40 percent in the northwest district to 88 percent in the southeast. Ten percent of the sorghum is coloring, with most of the crop in the northern counties just beginning to color, while 19 percent is coloring in the southeast district. Sorghum condition is rated as 3 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 62 percent good and 11 percent excellent, similar to a week ago 0.73 inches, varying by area from 0.33 inch or less in the west-central district and across the northern third of the State, to 1.48 inches inthe east-central district. Monthly rainfall for July averaged 5.53 inches, well above the 30-year average of 3.76 inches.